

U. S. Department of Justice

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COMPILER TO
NO. 883

BUREAU

of

INVESTIGATION

SERIALS 1-

100-HQ-328241

SECTION 1

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MADE UP

Serial 9
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CHAPTER 4

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Mr. White,
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100-328241-X
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
SEP 25 1943
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

1943

JIV: TB

DO-11

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

DATE September 23, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. NICHOLS

Reference is made to the attached letter dated September 15, 1943, from Arthur B. Spingarn, President of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, in which he requests a testimonial letter from the Director, directed to Walter White, Secretary of that Association, on the occasion of White's completion of 25 years of service therewith.

A review of the Bureau files was made in connection with Mr. White, and it is interesting to note that we do not have a main file on him. There are many many sec references, all of which pertain in the most part to his activities concerning the Association.

On several occasions he has been in to see the Director concerning the cases that we had under investigation involving civil rights.

The files reflect that he is a militant type of individual and is active in every conceivable program in which the betterment of the Negro race might be involved. In such participation, of course, he is alleged to have made numerous statements which are of critical nature of various individuals. An example of this would be the Detroit riot case in which he is alleged to have placed the blame therefore on the lack of intelligent administration of law enforcement in the city, as well as the allegation that Fifth Columnism was behind the entire affair.

White has apparently incurred the suspicion of many people of possible being communistic, although this is not definitely known. It is believed that a very guarded and cautious statement could be made, and would certainly do the Bureau no harm, but would on the other hand aid us in our relations with the Negro race.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mr

Attachment

Respectfully,

16 OCT 8 1943

b6
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100-328041-X1

NATIONAL OFFICERS

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CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
DR. LOUIS T. WRIGHT
ACTING CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
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Pittsburgh
Toledo, Ohio
Tulsa, Okla.
Washington

Wilmington, Del.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

69 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, 3, N. Y.

TELEPHONE: ALGONQUIN 4-3550

Official Organ: The Crisis



September
23rd
1943

63582

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

WALTER WHITE SECRETARY
ROY WILKINS ASSISTANT SECRETARY
EDITOR, THE CRISIS
THURGOOD MARSHALL SPECIAL COUNSEL
MILTON R. KONVITZ PRENTICE THOMAS ASSISTANT SPECIAL COUNSEL
DAISY E. LAMPKIN FIELD SECRETARY
ELLA J. BAKER DIRECTOR OF BRANCHES
SHIRLEY GRAHAM DONALD JONES E. FREDERIC MORROW (ON LEAVE IN ARMED SERVICES) ASSISTANT FIELD SECRETARIES
ODETTE HARPER PUBLICITY AND PROMOTION
LESLIE S. PERRY FRANK D. REEVES (ON LEAVE) ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS, WASHINGTON BUREAU

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I enjoyed tremendously that talk with you yesterday, though my conscience still bothers me a bit about staying so long.

First, let me tell you how grateful I am to you for the very helpful suggestions you made yesterday about my proposed trips to the European and Pacific theatres of operation. Especially am I grateful for your willingness to send a memorandum urging that I be permitted to go right up to the battlefronts. This is going to give much greater authority to my reports.

I also would be very grateful for any expediting of the FBI report to the War Department on my personal security application which may be possible--that is provided my reputation is good enough. It is my hope to be able to leave for England as early in November as is possible.

And I hope, also, that I shall be able to demonstrate my appreciation by performing the missions we discussed. On leaving England for North Africa, I shall arrange, if it is at all possible, to stop off for a few days in Lisbon. And when I come back, I am going to discuss with you the South American trip, if you will permit.

With cordial personal regards,

Ever sincerely,

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Secretary.

WALTER WHITE

WW:DW

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/low

100-328241-12

RECORDED

INDEXED

25 OCT 5 1943

63582

JKM:BK

September 25, 1943

100-328241-X3

94-4-65-16-2

RECORDED

Mr. Walter White
Secretary
National Association for the
Advancement of Colored People
69 Fifth Avenue
New York 3, New York

Dear Mr. White:

I have your letter of September 23, 1943,
and your telegram sent the next day, concerning your
contemplated trips to the various theaters of war.
I assure you I shall be most happy if our discussion
of the matter proves to have been of assistance and
shall look forward to hearing from you on your return.

You may be interested to know your personal
security questionnaire was received from the War
Department on the afternoon of September 24 and was
cleared on the morning of September 25.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Mumford _____
Mr. Piper _____
Mr. Starke _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

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DATE 4/8/91 BY SP-1 GSK/mw

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SEP 25 1943 P.M.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

SEP 24 1943

R.

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

[Handwritten signatures and initials]
Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Jones
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

WU17 LG

WUX NEWYORK NY SEP 24 302P 1943

[Handwritten checkmark] EDGAR HOOVER

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1GSK/mw

WAR DEPARTMENT INFORMS ME MY PERSONAL SECURITY APPLICATION
HAS BEEN TRANSMITTED TO DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. WOULD DEPLY
APPRECIATE ITS CLEARANCE WITH ATTACHMENT OF YOUR RECOMMENDATION
WE DISCUSSED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AS WISH LEAVE ABOUT
NOVEMBER 1. THANKS AND KINDEST REGARDS

WALTER WHITEOK.

RECORDED

100-328241-X3

[Handwritten: 94-4-6646-2]
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SEP 24 1943

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just what is the procedure?
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9/25/43
J.K.M.

WHITEOK 1.

340P.
Blue memo
for Director
9/24/43
S.P.S.

September 30, 1943.

RECORDED

100-328241-X4

Dear Mr. White:

Your letter of September 28 has just been received.

I shall be very glad indeed to see you upon your return from your trip to California and before you leave for Europe.

Sincerely yours,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mmc

SEP 30 8 35 PM '43
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DEPT. OF JUSTICE

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S. DEPT.

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Tolson _____
E. A. Tamm _____
Clegg _____
Coffey _____
Glavin _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Acers _____
Carson _____
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Hendon _____
Sumford _____
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Ann Tamm _____
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9/29/43

10/29/43

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RECEIVED-TOLSON
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U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

SEP 29 6 29 PM '43
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RECEIVED-NICHOLS
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U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

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100-328241-15

EHW:IT

June 17, 1944

Mr. Walter White, Secretary
National Association for the
Advancement of Colored People
69 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York

Dear Mr. White:

In my letter of June 9, 1944, you will recall I advised you that a copy of your letter to me, dated May 22, 1944, was being directed to the Attorney General. You will recall that I also informed you that any additional information which you might forward to me would be brought to the attention of Mr. Biddle.

Since writing you I have been requested by the Attorney General to ask you to continue to furnish all information concerning the status of racial conditions, not only in Detroit but in other areas, which is brought to your attention, or which might be developed by you in the course of any inquiries. I will, of course, be appreciative of your supplying me any data along these lines. You may be assured that they in turn will be brought to the attention of the Attorney General.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mw

INDEXED

DATE: 5-2-5

10

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
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Tracy
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Caton
Harbo
Hendon
Mumford
Starke
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Gandy

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JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



EAT:DS

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

June 16, 1944

SECURITY DIVISION
- ROUTING -

Mr. Mumford _____
Mr. Alden _____
Mr. Buckley _____
Mr. Burton _____
Mr. Callan _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Cunningham _____
Mr. Fitch _____
Mr. Fletcher _____
Mr. Strickland _____

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

With reference to the attached memorandum addressed to the Attorney General transmitting a copy of the letter addressed to the Bureau by Walter White, Executive Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People on May 22, 1944, you are advised that [redacted] called at my office concerning this matter. He stated the Attorney General did not believe that the subject matter should be investigated since there were no substantial facts, but only rumors. He stated, however, he thought it would be well for the Bureau to write a further letter to Walter White requesting him to continue to submit to the Bureau such additional data and information as he receives upon this or other matters believed of interest to the Department. Since we have already written White one letter about this, I think it would be well in addressing a further letter to him to indicate that the Attorney General has requested us to ask White to continue to furnish such information. [redacted] indicated that he thought it would be well to avoid indicating to White whether we were or were not investigating this situation.

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DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mg
Truly yours,
Edw. A. Tamm

Attachment



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100-328241-15
1944-6-16
35 JUN 23 1944

78 JUL 27 1944 22/

Office Memorandum **OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT**

JUN 12 1944

DATE:

JUN 10 '44

TO : The Attorney General

FROM : J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

SUBJECT: RACIAL CONDITIONS, DETROIT, MICHIGAN

I am attaching hereto a copy of a letter dated May 22, 1944, directed to me by Mr. Walter White, Executive Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. You will note Mr. White refers to racial tension in Detroit, and urges that this Bureau institute an "exhaustive investigation" relative thereto and more particularly, an investigation concerning the source of rumors pertaining to Negroes who allegedly desire to cause trouble.

I have informed Mr. White that his letter was being forwarded to you for your consideration and stated to him that this Bureau does not institute investigations relative to rumors or actual racial trouble and tension, of a nature referred to in his letter, without your prior authorization. I also expressed a desire that Mr. White furnish the Bureau any additional information he might receive in this regard, particularly any data reflecting pro-Axis or subversive elements agitating or exploiting the situation in Detroit.

With regard to Mr. White's letter, I would appreciate it if you will furnish me with an expression of opinion as to whether any investigation should be made. As you know, I have in the past supplied you with considerable information in turn furnished to this Bureau by informants and other sources concerning racial conditions in Detroit.

With regard to the rumors referred to in Mr. White's letter, it is recalled that under date of April 1, 1944, I forwarded you a memorandum entitled "Racial Conditions," referring specifically to rumors of "Pushing Clubs" in the cities of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, Baltimore, Maryland, Detroit, Michigan, and New York City. Informants and other sources of the Bureau were contacted with negative results as far as developing any foundation in fact to these rumors. With regard to Detroit, it was found by the Detroit Police Department that the rumors of the "Pushing Clubs" were in most instances passed along as anecdotes at social functions. The Bureau was advised by the Detroit Police Department that their investigations of the rumors met with negative results. Furthermore, a person believed to have been the original source of a conversation relative to a "Pushing Club," advised he recalled a conversation in which he did discuss the fact that he had been confronted with a number of instances of "pushing" on the part of Negro shoppers among white shoppers. This original source indicated that possibly his conversation may have been misinterpreted and promoted a rumor concerning "Pushing Clubs" which was subsequently relayed by intermediaries to the Detroit Office of the Bureau.

With regard to Mr. White's reference to rumors of a "D Day for Negroes," it might be noted that during the month of May the Detroit Office received a number of complaints about rumors of pending race riots. The Detroit Police Department and the

ENCLOSURE

KEEP IN F. B. I. FILES

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R192 JAN 14 1966

DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-IGSK/mk

Memorandum for the Attorney General

Offices of Military and Naval Intelligence also received similar reports. Investigation conducted by the Detroit Police Department to determine the source of the rumors was conducted and no specific information was received. Military and Naval Intelligence in Detroit advised information received by them in this regard was nonspecific and without apparent foundation in fact. It has been pointed out, however, in connection with the rumors of a possible riot that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in Detroit was at the time contemplating a parade scheduled for March 28, 1944, in connection with its annual membership drive. This parade was to have attracted some 5,000 participants.

Attachment

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE
ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE
69 Fifth Avenue, New York, 3 N.Y.

May 22, 1944

My dear Mr. Hoover:

I returned today from Detroit where I found a racial tension as alarming as that which existed last year at this time preceding the disastrous race riot of June 20. Dangerous rumors are being industriously spread, apparently by organized effort. Virtually little has been done by either city or state officials to correct any of the conditions which led to last year's riot. It is my measured opinion that unless breeders of hate are checked and other corrective action taken it is not only possible but probable that there will be another riot when warm weather comes.

I therefore take the liberty of urging that the Federal Bureau of Investigation institute an exhaustive investigation as soon as possible and that the Department of Justice take appropriate action based upon that investigation, to stem the tide which is running high.

Specifically, it is recommended that investigation be made of the sources of the rumors regarding the so-called "Bumping Club" and a "Negro D Day." [redacted] of our Detroit Branch whose offices are located at 446 East Warren Avenue (Telephone: Temple 1-3609) has at my request supplied me with the following information regarding these two rumors.

1. Rumors are again circulating throughout Detroit which follow the general pattern of those which circulated last year. The most prevalent one, which is most widely circulated among white people is the story about the "bumping club". The variations of this rumor all center around a Negro maid who either will not work on Tuesday or takes off Thursdays to go downtown and bump white people on streetcars, buses, and crowded pedestrian traffic. The maid is alleged to have told her employer that she is a member of the "bumping club".
2. Rumors about "D" Day coming from School Administrators who in good faith have been told that Negro students are circulating among themselves statements about "D" Day for Negroes. We have traced this rumor from the president of the Teacher's Federation who got it from one of the attendance officers who in turn got it from a principal of a southeastern school in the city. This is as far as we have been able to trace the rumor, but to date have received no evidence that such an idea is prevalent among Negroes themselves.

I do not need to add that any assistance that we may be able to give in running down and checking these rumors will be gladly and freely given to the extent of our ability.

Sincerely yours,

Walter White

Secretary

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DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/DC

TRUE COPY

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DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1GSR/M

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WILLIAM PENN HOUSE
Philadelphia

Dear Sir.

I am taking my time and
yours to report a condition that you must
already be well aware and one that cannot go on a
minute longer.

There is a ~~Mr. Walter White~~ who speaks for "The
Advancement of the Colored People" and he is
advancing them the ~~wrong way~~ of I can read between
the lines.

Let me tell you about she always was the
sweetest darkey in all the world until recently. She
attended one of these meetings ~~and says~~ that this
Kloutor (?) claims our boys are put behind the
front lines and colored troops go first, ~~they go~~
running rampant down South but not pointed in the
paper, conditions in Southern camps are intolerable, etc.

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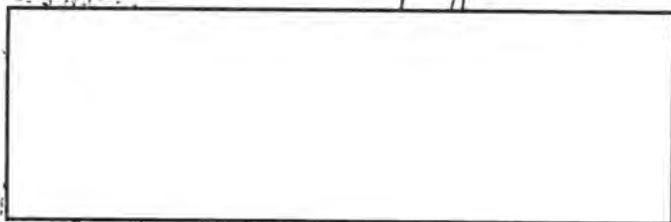
100-328241-1

I believe the I.B.I. have their fingers on the pulse of
everything but this Mr White is a restless rouser, has
been in some instances. The hate the colored are
nursing towards us is building up and like an
avalanche, may some day envelope us. Please
look into this as I hate to see such an evil
thing consume the colored race, which could
be a wonderful credit to themselves if their footsteps
are directed in the right pathways and ways of
thinking.

Thanking you for any answer,

I am,

Sincerely yours,



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FBI
INTERNAL SECURITY

AUG 25 5 20 PM '44

REPT OF JUSTICE
FBI
INTERNAL SECURITY
JUL 21 4 44 PM '44

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b7C

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16564

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. S. S. ALDEN

FROM : Mr. R. R. ROUGH

SUBJECT: WALTER FRANCIS WHITE, SECURITY MATTER - C

DATE: 12/11/44
RRR:edm

At the request of [redacted] in the Internal Security Division, the files of the State Department were checked concerning the alleged issuance of a passport to Walter Francis White of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the indication being that he was proceeding to Russia.

The passport files reveal that under date of September 24, 1943, subject made application for a passport to proceed to the British Isles. At this time he advised that he was born in Atlanta, Georgia, on July 1, 1893, and that his permanent address was 409 Edgecomb Avenue, New York City. Passport number 789499 was issued to him on December 24, 1943. Under date of November 29, 1944, the subject made application for revalidation of his passport, stating that he had received an assignment to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Pacific Fleet and other war theaters as a correspondent for the New York Post. Under date of November 30, 1944, the subject's passport was revalidated for a period of six months, valid for travel to such countries as the bearer may desire to travel by reason of his assignment to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Pacific Fleet. With reference to his desire to go to other theaters, the State Department advised that clearance had not as yet been received from the War Department.

In reviewing the passport file, it was noted that apparently White's application for revalidation of passport was not cleared through the FBI files.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-16SK/ma

JIW:mr
100-328241-1

July 24, 1944

RECORDED



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Dear 

Your letter postmarked July 5, 1944, is before me for acknowledgment.

I have carefully noted the content of your communication and wish to thank you for bringing the information contained therein to my attention.

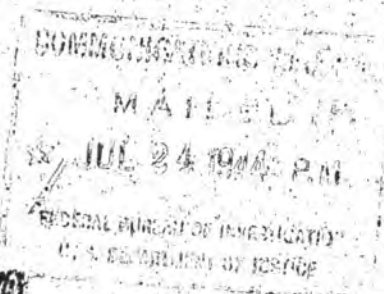
Should you obtain any information which you believe to be of interest to this Bureau, I want you to feel free to communicate directly with the Special Agent in Charge of our Newark Field Division which is located at 1836 Raymond-Commerce Building, Newark 2, New Jersey.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mf

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Mumford _____
Mr. Jones _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____



1944

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Director

FROM : D. M. Ladd

SUBJECT: WALTER WHITE, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
FOR ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1GSK/mca

DATE: November 7, 1946

I thought you would be interested in knowing that the "People's Voice," Negro Communist newspaper for October 26, 1946, carried an article which reflected that Walter White has begun writing a syndicate column for daily newspapers.

According to the "People's Voice," his column will appear in the New York "Herald Tribune," the Chicago "Daily News," the Philadelphia, "Bulletin," the Akron, Ohio "Beacon Journal" and the Detroit "Free Press."

This matter is being called to your attention in view of the fact that the Bureau is constantly receiving complaints from White concerning alleged violations of civil rights perpetrated primarily against the Negro race which necessitate a reply from the Bureau. It is felt that possibly these answers he receives from the Bureau will be used by him either in whole or in part in his column and consequently we should be more cautious in directing any communications to him.

JJC:MJP

RECORDED

100-328241-2

EX-46 & INDEXED

We should always assume that our letters may be made public.

367

H.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

21
1-12
AF

December 29, 1944

ANONYMOUS COMMUNICATIONS
KEEP ENVELOPE ATTACHED

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover.
Washington, D.C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mbr

Dear Sir:

I am sending you the enclosed newspaper clippings for your information re. "W.W." he is a yellow colored negro. The clippings - taken from the Detroit Sunday Free Press. his articles appear in the paper every Sunday and in other newspapers in the country. It might be of interest to know if his organization pay the F.P. to have his title of the "N.A.A.C.P." appear under his name in the articles in question. It appears he has close connection with the gang in Moscow in organizing the colored race in this U.S. Some time ago he visited Poland - saying he did so to collect information about the Polish people to write a book about them - no book - it was to report his work to the "gang" at the border line and receive instructions for to further his work among his race - and pay for expenses? The "gang" pays well to those who can help them. Colored C. organizations are forming in all large cities in the U.S. - in a number of cities. He recently married a white woman in New York to show that there is no race distinction between whites and blacks and to have blacks follow his example as often as possible. He is interested in a firm in New York that makes a preparation to turn black skin white - a racket. see clipping. On his honeymoon with his white wife he visited Turkey as his wife could collect data for a book on Turkish life etc. No book but to contact at the border line between Russia and Turkey to report his work in connection in the U.S. with

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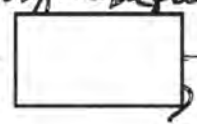
2

with the colored race and receive further instructions re his work - all expenses, travel, etc. paid by the gang. In a check up on him you may find that he is a paid agent for his work.

In this connection, I would say that W.W. is one that is a good organizer of colored race in general and the false propaganda he gives them is a menace to the best interests of your country and mine. A check on him no doubt would reveal much value in the good work you are prosecuting along similar lines. More power to you -

With the complements of the season and Life's Best to you for 1950.

I remain
Yours faithfully,



b6
b7C

Enclosures:

Cleaver covers up stuff in a measure. His "thumb nosing" remarks, as red lined, should receive attention -

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NOTICE

DOCUMENT CANNOT BE SCANNED

DESCRIPTION

Negatives

New Bleach Turns Black Skins White

NEW YORK, Aug. 16 (INS) — Walter White reported yesterday that scientists have discovered a chemical that can change the color of skin from black to white.

He identified the chemical as monobenzyl ether of hydroquinone.

White, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, in a magazine article said if the chemical is made available at moderate cost "the racial, social, economic and political consequence would be tremendous."

Racial Prejudice Fading in Japan

BY WALTER WHITE

Secretary, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

TOKYO—One of the most fascinating experiences in revisiting war zones is that of measuring the extent of survival of racial prejudices or of democratic practices initiated by American soldiers during the fighting.

Here and there one encounters residual remains of fantastic myths about Negroes—for example, the one that all colored people have tails or that Negroes in the United States occupy virtually the same status as untouchables once did in India.

But one finds far more frequently that the deliberate efforts a minority of white Americans made during the war to create difficulties for colored ones have either been totally forgotten or have resulted in a materially increased sympathy for Negro occupation troops. This is especially true among those who themselves have been the targets of color prejudice.

For example, we talked with a brilliant and charming graduate of Wellesley College who had undergone considerable persecution from her fellow-Japanese during the war because of her outspoken pro-American views. "The thing which hurt most and proved to be one of the most valuable aids to the war lords in whipping up hatred of the United States was Americans calling us 'yellow . . .'", she told us. "We knew the Germans weren't being called 'white . . .' and we couldn't convince the people we talked to that the United States wasn't as evil as Japanese propagandists said when we were attacked because of our color."



White

IT IS A PLEASURE to report that we found here a remarkable absence of friction or prejudice between white and Negro troops or civilian occupation personnel although a very high percentage of Americans here are from the deep South.

Seven out of ten soldiers who stood in line in front of me at the PX window where Americans can purchase yen or military scrip spoke in accents redolent of Mississippi

or other deep South states, which seems to be about the average of sectional origins of occupation personnel.

Despite this fact, according to Maj. Gen. Doyle O. Hickey, deputy chief of staff of the Far East Command, himself a Mississippian, there has been only one minor instance of friction between whites and Negroes in Japan the last six months.

THIS IS TRUE in spite of and possibly because of the new army policy of racial integration. It appears that only a beginning of compliance with the armed services' order to wipe out segregation has as yet been made here in Japan.

I discussed this briefly at luncheon with Gen. MacArthur whose views on the necessity and practicability of abolishing racial discrimination in the armed forces seem to have grown materially since we last discussed the subject in 1945 during the battle of Manila.

But it is obvious that the use of racial friction in the United States by both Russia and Britain to create distrust of Americans in Asia has made Gen. MacArthur acutely aware of the problem.

THIS AWARENESS seemed to underlie much of his alarm over the worsening of the situation in Asia, especially in China.

"Even if Chiang Kai-shek had been the devil incarnate, we should have backed him to the limit as we should back every anti-Communist," MacArthur told us. He added that the race question plagues and complicates every phase of American diplomatic and military policy in the Far East.

That his concern is abundantly justified is to be seen on every hand here by the frequency of the questions asked of the two Negro members of the 'round the world Town Meeting seminar.

The questioners seem to find it almost impossible to understand why or how Negro Americans can continue to have faith in a country which does nothing, apparently, to stop lynching and discrimination, which is about all they hear about Negroes in the United States.

Let's 494

Get it from the Sunday

FROM COLUMNIST WHITE: *And black, — yikes!*

Some Advice to GOP Rebuilders

BY WALTER WHITE

Secretary, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

OMAHA—Guy Gabrielson of the Republican National Committee did not include me among the 16,000 Americans of whom he asked advice on what needs to be done to stop the GOP from passing totally from the American scene.

But as a passionate advocate of the two-party system I want to share with him (and you) a few observations made in the last six weeks in Arizona, California, Oregon, Washington, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois, Nebraska, Ohio, Michigan and New York.

Thirty years of experience in the battle for human rights have convinced me that democracy, especially for minorities, can survive only when there are at least two political parties reasonably equal in strength. Unbroken rule from 1920 to 1932 was good neither for the nation nor the Republican Party since it bred belief that the GOP was invincible. It is equally dangerous for Democrats to believe that they cannot be beaten; it is tragic for the opposition party to be largely responsible by its inability to formulate a program which could bring it victory.

An economics professor in a Midwestern state university told me an experience which illustrates the need of more realistic thinking by Republicans. He attended a meeting of the city's top 15 business men who talked heatedly against "outside" control of the town's affairs and Democrats ruining the nation through concentration of power in Washington. Free enterprise and local control must be preserved, they argued, or else.

IT OCCURRED TO THE professor to see how "local" the group was. Thirteen of the 15 were local representatives of New York, Detroit, Akron and Philadelphia corporations. Of the other two whom he classified as local, one had recently remodeled his department store at a cost of three million dollars, most of which he had borrowed from a New York bank. At least so far as that town is concerned centralization of power had been started long before the advent of the New Deal or the Fair Deal.

Senator Bricker's proposal to legalize the "affair"



White

which conservative Republicans and Dixiecrats have been carrying on so scandalously these past dozen years hit the headlines the day I talked with a group of western business men. They wanted to know what needed to be done to win back to the GOP the Negro vote, especially in the 17 states with 281 electoral votes where that vote is pivotal.

I suggested as a first step fulfillment of the 1948 Republican platform: "Lynching or any other form of mob violence anywhere is a disgrace to any civilized nation . . . we favor the prompt enactment of legislation to end this infamy." "One of the basic principles of this Republic . . . equal opportunity to work . . . we favor the enactment and just enforcement of such Federal legislation as may be necessary . . ." "We favor the abolition of the poll tax . . ." "We are opposed to the idea of racial segregation in the armed services . . ."

Senators who worked to translate these solemn pledges into legislative reality, Mr. Gabrielson, are today both in disfavor and in the minority among Senate Republicans. In their stead Republicans-like Senate-Minority Leader Wherry play their game so identically with that of the Dixiecrats on racial and economic issues that none can draw a discernible line of demarcation between them.

HONESTLY, MR. GABRIELSON, can you blame the Negro voters of Illinois, Ohio and California who cast the ballots which elected Truman instead of Dewey in 1948 for being somewhat less than trusting of GOP promises?

I know a goodly number of them and talk to them in their homes and churches and organization meetings. They distrust the Dixiecrat wing of the Democratic Party and the slippery Northern Democratic politicians as much as they do men like Senators Wherry and Bricker.

May I suggest you read Henry Lee Moon's excellent book, "Balance of Power," and an article, "Does the Republican Party Want the Negro Vote?", by Arnold Aronson and Samuel Spiegler in The Crisis for December if you want the facts.

Give these voters proof that the GOP doesn't make pledges on human rights only to forget them, Mr. Gabrielson, and they won't cast the deciding votes against your party. The new session of the 81st Congress will give your party opportunity to prove its sincerity when the FEPC is called up.

A trip to arrange Socialists and the rest of it.

playing with words such this much

NEW ORDER IGNORED

FHA Accused of Discrimination

BY WALTER WHITE

Secretary, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

NEW YORK—A showdown to determine whether President Truman or the Army and the FHA shall decide what is to be done about racial discrimination is imminent and inevitable. More than a year ago the President ordered the Army, Navy and Air Force to do something about segregation of Negroes in the defense forces.

The Navy and Air Force went to work immediately and have gone a long way toward racial integration and equalizing of opportunity. The Army has stubbornly refused to budge except in a few token moves.

Recently Baltimore-born Phillip Pearlman, Solicitor General of the United States, announced on behalf of himself, President Truman and Attorney General J. Howard McGrath that henceforth no Federal monies shall be given through the FHA for construction of any housing from which American citizens are barred because of race, color, creed or national origin. No reasonable person can question the right of the government to make and enforce such a requirement. Funds loaned by the FHA and all other government agencies are obtained through the taxation of all citizens. No tax exemptions have ever been given citizens to whom equal benefits are denied. Thus the United States Government said through Mr. Pearlman's order that Americans who insist on indulgence of their personal prejudices must pay for that luxury and shall not have government assistance in enforcing them.



White

MR. PEARLMAN'S STATEMENT was widely praised all over the United States. For more than 10 years a continued

campaign had been carried on to persuade the FHA to cease its flagrantly discriminatory practices which were so brazen as to include in its Underwriters' Manual specific instructions to refuse approval of loans to minorities except in segregated areas.

It was not until 1941 that continued public pressure forced the FHA to remove the discriminatory provision from its Underwriters' Manual. But the FHA continued its discrimination by recommending inclusion of restrictive covenants in new housing developments until the United States Supreme Court ruled that no agency of government could enforce such covenants.

APPARENTLY IDENTICAL tactics are now being followed by the FHA to avoid compliance with the newest order to cease and desist from racial discrimination. An anonymous FHA spokesman is quoted in an Associated Press story out of Washington as saying that "racial segregation in public housing projects will be left up to local authorities," adding as a concession to the President's order and public opinion, "so long as equitable provision is made for all races."

It is clearly manifest now that neither the FHA nor the United States Army intends to comply with the explicit orders of the President, the Attorney General or the Solicitor General if they can get away with such thumb-nosing.

Commendable though the orders may be, they are meaningless before the ink has dried on them if the executing agencies find or devise loopholes or excuses to evade their implementation. This kind of action makes it obligatory upon President Truman to insist on compliance or resignations. To do otherwise would constitute an admission by him of weakness and of inability to lead his own administration.

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DATE 4/2/81 BY SP4 GSK/m New York, N. Y.
January 25, 1952

Mr. Hoover:

When recently being interviewed by this office in connection with an extortion letter received by him, Walter White, Executive Secretary of the NAACP, was very complimentary to the Bureau and told the following story:

He said that he had recently received a telephone call from an executive of Hadassah, a Jewish women's organization in Philadelphia, who stated that they understood that Walter White had issued a statement critical of the FBI's activities in connection with the Negro bombings in Florida and that White had stated that the FBI was not diligent and not doing a conscientious job in the Florida bombings.

White said he told this Hadassah executive he had not made any such statement and that as a matter of fact, the FBI was doing an outstanding job in Florida. He further told this executive he had been down in Florida and had observed the FBI's efforts and that they had been working night and day in a most conscientious manner.

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New York, N. Y.
January 25, 1952

Mr. Hoover:

While being interviewed the other day in connection with an extortion letter received by him, Walter White, Executive Secretary, NAACP, volunteered the following information regarding the [redacted] incident at the Stork Club:

White said that [redacted] is apparently worried over this incident. According to White, [redacted] attorney, got in touch with White and told him that [redacted] would like to shake hands and forget the incident and also wanted to have Walter White and [redacted] as his guests for the evening at the Stork Club. White stated he refused the offer of [redacted] as long as there was no guarantee that no discrimination would be practiced in the future at the Stork Club.

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White also said he had received a telephone call from Walter Winchell concerning the [redacted] incident and that Winchell talked to him over the telephone two hours and five minutes in a marathon tirade. According to White, Winchell stated that for twenty-five years he had been a close friend of his and of the NAACP and a vigorous supporter of their policies but that now because of his support of the Stork Club's action in the [redacted] incident that he was being crucified by the NAACP and by newspapers like the New York Post. Winchell said that as a consequence if he (Winchell) were to go into Harlem now his blood would flow in the streets.

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White stated that he told Winchell that it was Winchell's privilege to admit that he had made a mistake in the Stork Club incident. White stated that at the end of conversing, Winchell said "You probably have recorded this conversation and will crucify me further." White replied that there were no recording devices in the NAACP headquarters and that he had never recorded any telephone conversation, but he said to Winchell, "I don't doubt though that you are recording the conversation for your own benefit." Winchell hesitated for a moment but did not deny White's statement.



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G.I.R.-6
January 8, 1952

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DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mw

EX-83

Mr. Walter White
Executive Secretary
National Association for the
Advancement of Colored People
20 West 40th Street
New York 18, New York

Dear Mr. White:

Your letter dated January 2, 1952,
with an enclosure has been received.

Your interest in referring a copy
of this press release to me and your cooperation
with the Federal Bureau of Investigation in
this matter are indeed appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ELR:pdw:mc

NOTE: A copy of Mr. White's letter and a copy of the
enclosed press release is being furnished to Miami for
its information.

ELR 1/8/52

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Hiser _____
Tracy _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Rm. _____
Nease _____

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b7c

Wm. Webster Burke - ASAC, Miami

EOD: 12-29-41

GS-13, \$8560

Special Agent - Miami Division

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

20 WEST 40TH STREET NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

b6
b7C
GACRE 3-5890

Mr. Tolson ✓
Mr. Ladd ✓
Mr. Nichols ✓
Mr. Belmont ✓
Mr. Clegg ✓
Mr. Glavin ✓
Mr. Harbo ✓
Mr. Rosen ✓
Mr. Tracy ✓
Mr. Laughlin ✓
Mr. Mohr ✓
Tele. Room ✓
Mr. Nease ✓
Miss Gandy ✓

67530

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mbr

January 2, 1952

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I thought you might be interested in seeing the enclosed syndicated column I wrote about the Mims, Florida bombing and the job the F. B. I is doing.

At their request, I arranged for Messrs. Webb Burke and [redacted] to talk with [redacted] despite the fact that her condition was still quite critical. I also turned over to them the material which I had gathered, believing that they would do a better job than anyone else.

Cordially,

Walter White
Walter White
Executive Secretary

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

WW:erb
Enclosure

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INDEXED - 44

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EX-81

Jan 5 1952

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Dr. C. Austin Wright
Dr. H. C. Bryant
Dr. Joseph G. G...

500 50

FROM: Walter White
242 East 68th Street
New York, N.Y.

For release to subscribing newspapers,
Thursday, January 3, 1952

39047

MIMS, FLORIDA

63581

It may be that the background of the lush, natural beauty of blue lakes and sky, of orange trees so studded with golden fruit as almost to obliterate the green foliage and of "Millionaires' Row" in Winter Park makes the bombed home here of Harry T. Moore more incongruous and shocking than the destruction I witnessed during the war in Europe and Asia. For here is the shambles of the modest dwelling place of a man, now dead, and his wife, now lying critically wounded in nearby Sanford, because he had dared to speak out and work for enforcement of the law.

Today I turned over to the F. B. I. the names of three persons who allegedly have recently advocated mob action against Mr. Moore. They are not the only ones who have voiced resentment against him. Repeatedly since August, 1949, he had written to Gov. Fuller E. Warren urging him to assign trustworthy persons from the Governor's office instead of Sheriff Willis McCall of Lake County to transport Samuel Shepherd and Walter Irvin from the state prison at Raiford to Tavares, Lake County county seat, for a hearing on a motion for a change of venue in the new trial which had been ordered by the U. S. Supreme Court.

The entire world knows what happened because of Gov. Warren's refusal to act as was requested by Mr. Moore. Samuel Shepherd is dead

W.H.T.E. 114 W. 34

blast of either nitroglycerine or TNT. Explosives experts are convinced that dynamite could not have done such destruction. They are also convinced that the crime was painstakingly planned, timed for the only period of the year when the entire family would be gathered together. Mr. Moore traveled constantly for the NAACP. Mrs. Moore is a teacher in a rural school near Palm Beach. Both she and Mr. Moore were denied renewal of their contracts as teachers in Brevard County because of hostility of the school officials to Mr. Moore's participation in a legal campaign against educational inequalities inflicted on Negroes. One of the Moore daughters is a secretary in the Department of Labor in Washington and the other is a secretary in the public school system of Ocala. The bombers waited until the entire family gathered to spend Christmas--birthday of the Prince of Peace--together. So shattered is the modest cottage that ^{no} one knows why one of the Moore daughters and Mr. Moore's 71-year-old mother, who slept in an adjoining room, were not also killed. It is obvious that the criminals intended to wipe out the entire family.

Gov. Fuller Warren, irritated by criticisms of the failure of the State of Florida to act against bombings here and in Miami, has issued daily blasts at this commentator as "a disturber of the peaceful relations between the races." How peaceful those relations have been

48. WHITE, W. 34

39049

These are samples of the unpunished crimes against Negroes in Florida now highlighted by the assassination of Harry Moore and by the spreading of mob violence against Jews, Catholics and others.

To Florida's credit are the vigor and courage of most of its newspapers, especially in the metropolitan areas, in exposing the breakdown of law and order. Many citizens of the state, Negro and white, are shocked and aroused. Hotel men, proprietors of tourist resorts and Chambers of Commerce are awakening to the fact that millions of dollars may be lost by the unsavory developments here. Already an alarming number of cancellations of reservations for the winter tourist season have been reported. It is possible that this combination of moral indignation and economic interest may result in action. If the energy and determination of the F. B. I. can be approximated by Florida law enforcement officials, there is hope that Harry Moore's tragic and violent death may diminish if not put an end to the violence which has become an epidemic here.

CLASSIFICATION PER OGA LETTER
DATED 01-03-2007

DATE: 01-17-2007

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01-17-2032

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WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

WALTER FRANCIS WHITE

Born, 1 July 1893, Atlanta, Georgia.

Educated, Atlanta University; LLD, Howard University.

Executive Secretary, National Association for Advancement of Colored
People, 1931 to date;

Acting Secretary, NAACP, 1929-1930;

Assistant Secretary, NAACP, 1918-1929;

Member, Advisory Council for Government of the Virgin Islands, 1935.

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DATE: 01-17-2007

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DECLASSIFY ON: 25X 1-2-4-8

01-17-2032 CLASSIFICATION PER OGA LETTER

DATED 01-03-2007

TO : MR. A. H. BELMONT

FROM :

SUBJECT:

WALTER FRANCIS WHITE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

CLASSIFIED BY: SP2AUL/P

DATE: April 14, 1952

DECLASSIFY ON: 25X

423063

b6
b7CALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISEPURPOSE:BACKGROUND:ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISEDETAILS:

White was born on July 1, 1893, at Atlanta, Georgia. He has been employed on the staff of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People since 1918, and is presently employed as Executive Secretary of that organization.

There has been no Bureau investigation conducted regarding White. He is mentioned numerous times in Bureau files in connection with his work in the NAACP and has

Attachment

RECORDED - 117

EX - 80

APR 18 1952

100-328241-5

K192 NWP:lae

APR 22 1952

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

contacted the Bureau frequently regarding civil rights matters. He has maintained cordial relations with Bureau officials and has indicated that he is attempting to keep Communists from infiltrating the NAACP.

b1

[redacted] White appeared as a speaker, on June 14, 1940, at a meeting sponsored by the Maryland Association for Democratic Rights, affiliated with the National Emergency Conference for Democratic Rights, which organization has been cited by the HCUA as a Communist front. He also appeared as a speaker before the Writers Congress, a meeting which was sponsored jointly by the University of California and the Hollywood Writers Mobilization on October 1, 1943. The Hollywood Writers Mobilization for Defense has been cited by the Attorney General as Communist. (S) (K)

INFORMATION NOT BEING DISSEMINATED:

The report of Hearings before a Subcommittee of the Committee on Foreign Relations, U. S. Senate, 81st Congress, published in 1950, lists one Walter White as a member of the Advisory Board of the Film Audiences for Democracy in 1939, (pg. 1499) and a sponsor for the Greater New York Emergency Conference on Democratic Rights in 1940 (pg. 1504).

Both of these organizations have been cited as Communist fronts by the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, March 29, 1944.

This information is not being disseminated because the individual listed as Walter White is not further identified. (121-23278-267X12)

RECOMMENDATION:

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(S)

(S)

gh.

H.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SECRET~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE: 01-17-2007
CLASSIFIED BY 60324 AUC BAW/CPE/RYS
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X 3.3(1) 01-17-2032

CLASSIFICATION PER OGA LETTER
DATED 01-03-2007

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Class. & Ext. By SP-1GSK/ma
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 2
Date of Review 4/6/91

44-99
CLASSIFIED BY SP-1GSK/ma
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X 1
423065

April 14 1952

RE: WALTER FRANCIS WHITE

G.I.R.-6

b1

RECORDED - 100
INDEXED - 100
EX-99

No investigation has been conducted regarding Walter Francis White. However, the following information was located which may be of interest in connection with your inquiry.

A report of Hearings before a Subcommittee of the Committee on Foreign Relations, U. S. Senate, 81st Congress, published in 1950, page 1535, exhibit 30, mentions "Walter White, Secretary, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People," as a speaker before an open meeting on "Democratic Rights and National Defense," on June 14, 1940, at Baltimore, Maryland, sponsored by the Maryland Association for Democratic Rights, affiliated with the National Emergency Conference for Democratic Rights.

The National Emergency Conference for Democratic Rights was cited as a Communist front by the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, March 29, 1944, pages 48 and 102. (121-23278-267X12, pg. 1535)

Exhibit 31, page 1537, of the same report, mentions "Walter White, NAACP," as a speaker at an opening session of the Writers Congress under the joint sponsorship of the University of California and the Hollywood Writers Mobilization, on October 1, 1943. He was also listed as member of a panel on Minority Groups at this meeting, on October 2, 1943.

The Hollywood Writers Mobilization for Defense has been cited by the Attorney General as Communist. (121-23278-267X12, page 1537)

DEPT. OF JUSTICE
DIRECTOR

b1

Tolson
Ladd
Nichols
Belmont
Clegg
Glavin
Harbo
Rosen
Tracy
Mohr
Tele. Rm.
Nease
Gandy

68 MAY 14 1952

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Office Memorandum
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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DECLASSIFY ON: 25X 3.311

DATE 12-20-2032

TO : Mr. A. H. BELMONT

DATE April 5 1952

FROM :

CLASSIFIED BY SP2A

DECLASSIFY ON: 25X 3.311

SUBJECT:

WALTER FRANCIS WHITE

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
FOR ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE (NAACP)

CLASSIFICATION PER OGA LETTER
DATED 01-03-2007

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Belmont _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

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ACTION:

SJP:lvw

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100-100-328241-6
APR 22 1952

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Reason-FCIM 11-2.4.2
Date of Review 4/8/91

EX-991

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

68 MAY 14 1952

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

b1

RECORDED - 103

June 11, 1952

100-326741-7

Mr. Walter White
National Association for the
Advancement of Colored People
20 West 40th Street
New York 18, New York

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/AR

Dear Mr. White:

I have received your very kind letter of June 9, 1952, together with the column concerning Canada Lee.

It is very gratifying that you saw fit to write me concerning my participation in your new radio program, and I would consider it a real privilege to indicate an acceptance if it were at all possible. I must explain, however, that for the past several years now I have had to decline all such invitations, and it is necessary due to the great number of requests received that I be entirely consistent in this regard. You will appreciate, I know, from your frequent contacts with us that the pressure of work here has been overwhelming, and frankly it shows no sign of lessening.

It goes without saying that all of us here in the Bureau are keenly aware of the danger and the irreparable damage which can result from irresponsible name-calling and vigilante action. I know you share my view that inquiry into a person's loyalty belongs in the hands of professional investigators and that evaluations of the data developed should be made by authorities appointed for that purpose.

I trust that you will accept my sincere regrets and I do hope you will appreciate my position. One of these days surely the international tension will lessen so that I can do some of the things that I have had to forego.

Your good wishes concerning my health are indeed appreciated.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

cc - New York, with copy of incoming.

(See Note Next Page)

HPL:gr:cm

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Laughlin _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Rm. _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____



NOTE: White, who is executive secretary of the NAACP, enclosed a copy of his press release regarding the late Canada Lee, whom he defines as a supporter of his race and not as a Communist apologist. In this release he mentions talking to a FBI official regarding Lee's loyalty.

CABLE ADDRESS: NACAPEOPLE, N. Y.

Mr. Tolson ✓
Mr. Ladd ✓
Mr. Nichols ✓
Mr. Belmont ✓
Mr. Clegg ✓
Mr. Glavin ✓
Mr. Harbo ✓
Mr. Rosen ✓
Mr. Tracy ✓
Mr. Laughlin ✓
Mr. Mohr ✓
Tele. Room ✓
Mr. Holloman ✓
Miss Gandy ✓

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

20 WEST 40th STREET, NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

PERSONAL

June 9, 1952

NOTED
rhr

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I would like to have you join me on a broadcast on my new radio program. The format is simple and somewhat different since it combines a discussion with a guest and a brief news analysis. The discussion between my guest and myself takes ten minutes, and it has been remarkable how much can be crowded into such an ad lib discussion.

The program originates from Station WLIB in New York, and other stations which have subscribed to date are WCFL in Chicago, KFWB in Los Angeles (the Warner Brothers station), WWDC in Washington, WIP in Philadelphia and WBMS in Boston. The guest on my first program was Mrs. Roosevelt, and others who have been recorded are Senator Hubert Humphrey, [redacted] Averell Harriman and Dr. Channing Tobias. I am doing a program with Senator Russell on June 30 and have invited General Eisenhower, Senators Taft and Kefauver and Ambassador Chester Bowles to appear. Mr. Bowles has accepted.

What I would like to discuss with you, if you are willing to do so, is the possibility of establishment of some machinery by which persons falsely accused of belonging or having belonged to an organization on the Attorney General's subversive list may obtain an objective hearing. You know me well enough to know that I feel strongly that if a man is guilty in the slightest degree of disloyalty the book should be thrown at him. But I have been disturbed at the manner in which people like [redacted] Dr. Channing Tobias and one or two others have been falsely accused. I feel equally disturbed about the same situation facing any person irrespective of color. But when Americans who have done so much to stop communism by fighting for democracy, as has been the case with [redacted] and Dr. Tobias, can be smeared by crackpots, the situation becomes dangerous to democracy itself.

Lou Nichols and I have discussed this several times. But as both he and [redacted] have explained to me, Congress has never given the FBI the authority to clear a person if his record is clear. Here is a syndicated column I wrote about the case of Canada Lee. It would have been enormously useful, in my opinion, to have used the talents of an earnest and sincere person like Canada Lee to offset the effect of men like Paul Robeson.

WALTER WHITE

F/103

encl (copy only)
ack 6-11-52
bpl

INDEXED - 103 100-328241-7

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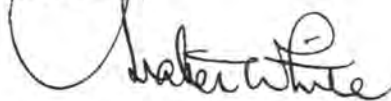
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June 9, 1952

Knowing how busy you are, I could come to Washington at your convenience and record the program there. Please let me know if you are willing to do such a program.

I was delighted to hear from Lou the other day that you are now in perfect health again.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Walter White".

Walter White

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigations
Washington, D. C.

WW: ☐
Enclosure

b6
b7C

FROM: Walter White
242 East 68th Street
New York, New York

For release to subscribing
newspapers, Thursday,
May 15, 1952

Canada Lee's obituaries were lengthy and effusive--so laudatory, in fact, that the generous and gentle actor would be startled by them in light of the privation he experienced during the last few months of his life. It is certain he would read them with a bitter smile reflecting that he might have earned money enough for the rest and medical treatment he needed to save his life had the newspapers spoken as admiringly of him during his lifetime as they did when he died.

They had written, it is true, in glowing terms of Canada Lee's superlative performance in "Cry, the Beloved Country" in which the spectator through Mr. Lee's great acting really lived the role of the Reverend Stephen Kamala. But employment neither in Hollywood nor television nor radio materialized as would have been the case of any other actor following such ecstatic reviews. A whispering campaign was circulated among broadcasting and advertising executives that Mr. Lee was "too controversial" because he had appeared at benefits for organizations purportedly fighting race prejudice which subsequently had been placed on the Attorney General's subversive list.

Never one to take attack or innuendo lying down, Mr. Lee called a press conference in 1949 "to put the record straight". In that rich and eloquent voice of his he declared passionately and angrily, "I am not a Communist or a joiner of any kind, never have been and never will be. Call me a Communist and you call all Negroes Communist who cry out against injustice." Dutifully some of the press reported his

WHITE 1046

